

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

U.S. Appl. No.: 10/577,942 Confirmation No.: 5251
Title: USE OF A HYDROGEL FOR THE CULTURE OF
CHONDROCYTES
Inventor(s): Pierre WEISS
Filed: December 18, 2006
Art Unit: 1651
Examiner: Hanley, Susan Marie
Docket No.: P08919US00/BAS
Customer No.: 000881

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Response to the Restriction Requirement of May 5, 2009

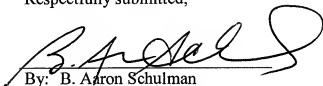
Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated May 5, 2009, and without addressing the positions of the Examiner therein, Applicants elect Group I, claims 1-4, drawn to a silanized HEC or HMPC hydrogel product. In addition, to the extent required to complete the response, Applicants elect as a species a silanized HMPC hydrogel, and all claims read on this species.

In light of the response above, examination and allowance of the elected claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: June 3, 2009

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. Aaron Schulman", is written over a horizontal line.

By: B. Aaron Schulman

Registration No.: 31,877

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